

# **Application of Information Theory, Lecture 1**

## **Basic Definitions and Facts**

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- ▶ When using the natural logarithm, the quantity is called **nats** ("natural")
- ▶ Entropy is a function of  $p$  (sometimes refers to as  $H(p)$ ).

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(i.e., for some  $x_1 \neq x_2 \neq x_3$ ,  $P_X(x_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $P_X(x_2) = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $P_X(x_3) = \frac{1}{4}$ )

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▶  $n$  bits are needed to describe  $X$

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4.  $X = X_1, \dots, X_n$  where  $X_i$  are iid over  $\{0, 1\}^n$ , with  $P_X(1) := \Pr[X = 1] = \frac{1}{3}$ .  $H(X) = ?$

5.  $X \sim (p, q)$ ,  $p + q = 1$

▶  $H(X) = H(p, q) = -p \log p - q \log q$

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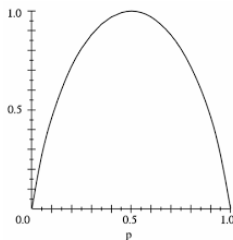
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Shannon function is the **only** symmetric function (over probability distributions) satisfying the following three axioms:

**A1** Continuity:  $H(p, 1 - p)$  is continuous function of  $p$ .

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$$H(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m) = H(p_1 + p_2, p_3, \dots, p_m) + (p_1 + p_2)H\left(\frac{p_1}{p_1 + p_2}, \frac{p_2}{p_1 + p_2}\right)$$

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Let  $H$  be a function that satisfying the above axioms.

We prove (assuming additional axiom) that  $H$  is the Shannon function.

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Claim follows by combining the above equations.  $\square$

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Let  $1 = k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_q < m$  and let  $C_t = \sum_{i=k_t}^{k_{t+1}-1} p_i$  (letting  $k_{q+1} = m + 1$ ).

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$$H(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m) = H(C_1, \dots, C_q) + C_1 \cdot H\left(\frac{p_1}{C_1}, \dots, \frac{p_{k_2-1}}{C_1}\right) + \dots + C_q \cdot H\left(\frac{p_{k_q+1}}{C_q}, \dots, \frac{p_m}{C_q}\right)$$

Proof: Follow by the extended group axiom and the symmetry of  $H$   $\square$

Implication: Let  $f(m) = H(\underbrace{\frac{1}{m}, \dots, \frac{1}{m}}_m)$

- ▶  $f(3^2) = 2f(3) = 2H(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$   
 $\implies f(3^n) = nf(3).$
- ▶  $f(mn) = f(m) + f(n)$

## Further generalization of the grouping axiom

Let  $1 = k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_q < m$  and let  $C_t = \sum_{i=k_t}^{k_{t+1}-1} p_i$  (letting  $k_{q+1} = m + 1$ ).

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$$f(m) = \log m$$

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We give a proof under the additional axiom

$$\mathbf{A4} \quad f(m) < f(m+1)$$

(you can Google for a proof using only  $\mathbf{A1-A3}$ )



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- ▶ For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $k = \lfloor n \log 3 \rfloor$ .
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$$f(m) = \log m$$

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- ▶ Proof extends to any integer (not only 3)

$$H(p, q) = -p \log p - q \log q$$



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- ▶ By continuity axiom, holds for **every**  $p, q$ .



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We prove for  $m = 3$ . Proof for arbitrary  $m$  follows the same lines.

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- A function  $f$  is **concave** if  $\forall t_1, t_2, \lambda \in [0, 1] \leq 1$   
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$\Rightarrow$  (by induction)  $\forall t_1, \dots, t_k, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k \in [0, 1]$  with  $\sum_i \lambda_i = 1$   
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- Hence,  $H(p_1, \dots, p_m) = \sum_i p_i \log \frac{1}{p_i} \leq \log \sum_i p_i \frac{1}{p_i} = \log m$
- Alternatively, for  $X$  over  $\{1, \dots, m\}$ ,  
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►  $H(X) < H(\cos(X))$ , if  $0, \pi \in \text{Supp}(X)$ .

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